NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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For Immediate Release

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NEWTON MAN INDICTED FOR ROLE IN METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 7, 2007, **JEREMY R. MOORE**, age 25, of Newton, Illinois, was named in a one-count Indictment returned by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois. **MOORE** was charged with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine. It is alleged that more than fifty (50) grams of methamphetamine was involved in the conspiracy. The indictment alleges that the conspiracy operated between January 2006 and January 2007.

If convicted, **MOORE** faces a penalty of 5-40 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 4 years.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Richland County Sheriff's Office, the Jasper County Sheriff's Office, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office and federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities.

The Richland and Jasper County State's Attorneys Offices have assisted throughout the investigation of this case.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.